karan, and the pay fixed is rather a special rate. The allowance is to compensate the small pay he is drawing.

Travelling Allowance to Non-official Members of the Legislative Council.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

134. With regard to the representation made in the last session of the Legislative Council that official and non-official members of the Council should be treated without any distinction in matters like travelling allowance, will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken by the Government?

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

The non-official members of the Council are, for purposes of T. A., equal in status to official members who draw first class allowance. In some cases, they are even better off than the officials. Among official members themselves, some distinction is inevitable according to the provisions of the C. S. R.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

How is it we are better off, and in what case? You see that the official members are entitled to draw double first-class and non-officials are only given one first-class. How is it that they—non-official members—are better off?

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

When the official members draw double first-class, they cannot draw daily allowance. Here non-official members are allowed to draw single first-class, daily allowance and mileage. In the case of officials, if they draw double first-class, they cannot draw any other allowance. If they proceed beyond two miles, they can claim. Suppose they came to Ernakulam about a mile from the Railway Station, they cannot draw any mileage, but the non-officials can.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

Will it make a larger amount than the official member's?

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

That depends upon the distance. In some cases—for members coming from Chittur and Palghat—the amount will be big. It will be a loss to them, if they are only allowed to draw double first-class like the official members.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

Considering the right of members, we want to make it clear what the aim is. All the members, officials and non-officials,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

are only members of equal status when they come to this Council to attend the session. We do not object to the rates of travelling allowance. It is a general question.

PRESIDENT.

If you want to consider it apart from that question, I shall do it.

Dr. A. R. MENON.

It is not a question of money, as the Comptroller explained. We want to have the non-officials placed on the same footing and on the same level with the official members in this matter.

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

So far as travelling allowance is concerned, that is our ordinary rule with regard to officials. In some cases they gain, and in some others it will be a loss.

PRESIDENT.

What harm is there, if they are placed on the same rank as the officials?

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

Even in the case of official members, there are differences. The rates of T. A. vary according to the pay.

Dr. A. R. MENON.

The T. A. varies according to the salary. Those who draw Rs. 500 and above have a right for Rs. 5. Those who draw Rs. 400 have a certain amount, and those who draw Rs. 300 have a certain amount. Here it is not a question of Rs. as. ps. Here is a way to get over this difficulty. At the time when they come to attend the business of this Council, they come as members like ourselves. Whatever their allowance may be, we do not care. We have no concern about it. We are not paid. When this question of sacrifice comes, they are certainly more able to bear the sacrifice than we. We want only equality.

DIWAN BAHADUR Dr. V. VERGHESE.

Resident members among officials do not get anything here. We are not paid anything.

Dr. A. R. MENON.

They are paid for the whole month by the Government. They are working here, instead of working in their offices. So they do not do anything additional. That is all. Of course, that is the matter that I want to make clear. What we want is

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

a uniformity of allowance which will be applicable to an officer coming from Trichur and his colleague for that constituency.

PRESIDENT.

It should not be lower than than that given to the official member. Is there anything in the rules to give us any guide with regard to this point?

DIWAN BAHADUR Dr. V. VERGHESE.

In this comparison there is some distinction. In some respects the T. A. given to officers does not increase with the position.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON

But all the officers do not get the same allowance

Dr. A. R. MENON

We come to the Railway Station and from the Railway Station to our quarter. It might be 2 or three miles. Are we to calculate the mileage from the Railway Station to the Legislative Council Office, as I have done, or to the residency quarters? Has the mileage anything to do for the non-official members? We come to the Railway Station. I live in Perumanur. Am I entitled to get allowance from the Railway Station to Perumanur or to the Town Hall?

Dr. A. G. MENON.

Both.

PRESIDENT.

The non-officials should not be lower in level than the official members. So far as the rules are concerned, there should not be anything which means a reflection that the non officials are lower in status, as regards T. A.

Dr. A. G. MENON.

A perusal of the rules would show that the non-official members are not given the same consideration as the official members.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW

The rules are given in Appendix 2 of the *Manual.*

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

The T. A. of official members is drawn according to the C. S. R.

Mr K T. MATHEW.

By comparison, we find that there is some distinction.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT.

In what respect? Is Travelling Allowance given to officers according to position?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

But all the officers do not get the same allowance. We go to the Railway Station, and from the Railway Station, we go to our quarters. It may be 3 or 4 miles away. Are we to calculate the distance from the Railway Station to our residence or from the Railway Station to the Town Hall?

Dr. A. G. MENON.

From the Ernakulam Railway Station, I go to Perumanur, and I am entitled to get mileage from the Railway Station to Perumanur. We do not also get daily allowance on the day on which we travel.

PRESIDENT.

Along with T. A. do you give daily allowance? Suppose a member comes here from a place 3 or 4 miles off. Then, you see, he is given mileage. Is he given the daily allowance also for that day?

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

Yes, Sir.

Dr. A. G. MENON.

Unfortunately, I was not drawing. I thought I had no right to claim the daily allowance. But I am not sorry about it, since we are enlightened by the Comptroller of Accounts. I shall do it in future. I shall not ask any more questions.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

We are not allowed to draw the daily allowance, if we come a day earlier.

PRESIDENT.

What is the rule in Travancore?

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

It is double first class, Sir. In this respect, I request the President to follow the Travancore rule. If we are following Travancore in all things, why not follow in this case also? In Travancore they allow Rs. 5 daily allowance and double first class.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

Here the rules are exceedingly peculiar. I draw mileage for one mile to the Trichur Railway Station, Rs. 5—5—0 for single first class, mileage for 1 mile to my residence, and on the same day I draw Rs. 3 daily allowance.—most peculiar, unheard of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

rules. The best thing will be to give us double first class and to do away with daily allowance. We neither lose nor gain by it.

PRESIDENT.

The only difficulty will be as to the scale on which we are to fix it. If we fixed it at Rs. 3 as the daily allowance, the difficulties are that, instead of regulating it according to the pay of the officers, for the purpose of the non-official members, we adopt a uniform allowance which might prejudice the status of the higher grade officers.

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

Double first class is given for all the officers. Then they are allowed daily allowance.

PRESIDENT.

When you give double first class, you do not give daily allowance. Suppose there are members from Ernakulam and Cochin. According to the rules, they won't be entitled to daily allowance.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

May I know whether, when the Head of a Department comes from outside and sits in this House, he draws any daily allowance?

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI.

He will be entitled to draw his daily allowance.

PRESIDENT.

Suppose his Head-quarters is at Ernakulam. He is not allowed to do so. Mr. Kochunni Menon is a member residing at Ernakulam, and then you see the question arises whether he should be allowed daily allowance. If we go by the rules regulating the allowance of our officers, he will not be entitled to daily allowance. If you want to apply the rules to the Government Officers, there will be this difficulty. Some of the officers in Cochin and Ernakulam who are living within 5 miles radius won't get anything according to the Cochin Service Regulations.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

They must be considered to have come not from Ernakulam but from their constituency. (*Laughter.*)

PRESIDENT.

This rule applies to you also.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

We are not under the Civil Service Regulations.

Dr. A. R. MENON.

They should be treated in the same way as official members. If the same rules are applied to non-official members, that would be putting hardship on the resident members of this Council. I answer, Sir, by saying that all the official members, whether they are resident or non-resident, should be put on the same footing as the Head of a Department coming from outside.

Dr. A. G. MENON.

We have put forth our grievances, and the only thing we want is the Diwan to consider it. Under Appendix 2 we are not allowed to draw daily allowance on the day on which we travel.

PRESIDENT.

Has my Comptroller gone wrong?

Dr. A. G. MENON.

I am afraid he has gone wrong. That is why I did not draw my daily allowance. That is to say, the day of travelling is excluded as per last paragraph of page 54 of the *Manual*. If we come the previous day, we have not got daily allowance for that day.

PRESIDENT.

If you come by the morning train that day, you will get the allowance.

Dr. A. G. MENON.

I was ignorant, and I referred this question to the Hon'ble Member for Mulakunnattukavu. He made me understand that we are not entitled to daily allowance, if we travel the same morning.

PRESIDENT.

Suppose you come here by the morning train and then you sit in the Legislative Council. You will get not only the T. A. but also the daily allowance.

Dr. A. G. MENON.

Suppose I come a day before.

PRESIDENT.

If you come a day before, you won't get daily allowance.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Dr. A. G. MENON.

Suppose the train is late and we are not able to come and sit here.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

The question was discussed in the Madras Legislative Council. They get first class officers' allowance—I mean—first class officers' rate of mileage and all that. Ten rupees in Madras and not double first class.

PRESIDENT.

Here also it is the same.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

Double first class? Members residing in Madras complained. There it was decided that members residing in Madras should get their daily allowance, not official members but non-official members. Non-official members residing in Madras get daily allowance. That is the only difference.

PRESIDENT.

What is the Travancore rate?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

It is double first class. It is supposed to cover the luggage and carriage expenses.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

In many cases we have been following Travancore. What is the objection in following Travancore in this also?

PRESIDENT.

The matter may be considered.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly